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Message Text

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44
ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-20 RSC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01

NIC-01 SAJ-01 OMB-01 DRC-01 NEA-10 IO-14 SCI-06 EB-11

COME-00 TRSE-00 CU-04 /146 W
---------- 116910
R 161153Z OCT 73
FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 149
INFO AMEMBASSY SOFIA

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EO 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR AU
SUBJ: TODOR ZHIVKOV'S VISIT TO AUSTRIA

REF: VIENNA 8396

1. BULGARIAN STATE COUNCIL CHAIRMAN TODOR ZHIVKOV VISITED AUSTRIA OCT 9-13, ACCOMPANIED BY AN ENTOURAGE OF TWENTY, INCLUDING HIS DAUGHTER LYADMILA ZHIVKOV, DEPUTY CHAIRMAN MINISTERIAL COUNCIL ANGEL BALEVSKI, CHAIRMAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES PETUR MLADENOV, FORMIN IVAN NEDEV, MINFOR TRADE YANKO MARKOV, MIN FORESTRY AND ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION VLADIMIR GANOVSKI. ZHIVKOV'S VISIT WAS IN RETURN FOR THAT OF PRESIDENT JONAS TO BULGARIA IN JUNE 1970.

2. IN ADDITION TO USUAL FUNCTIONS ENTAILED IN TATE VISIT SUCH AS DINNERS GIVEN BY PRESIDENT JONAS AND BY CHAIRMAN ZHIVKOV, LUNCHEON BY CHANCELLOR KREISKY, DISCUSSIONS AMONG FOREIGN MINISTERS AND VISIT TO PARLIAMENT, ZHIVKOV VISITED BOEHLEC KAPFENBERG INDUSTRIAL CENTER AND MADE ONE DAY STOP-OVER IN SALZBURG FOR TOUR OF CULTURAL SIGHTS.

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3. ZHIVKOV'S DECISION TO USE STATE DINNER HOSTED BY

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PRESIDENT JONAS AS OCCASION TO "CONDEMN ISRAELI AGGRESSION" AND "UNLAWFUL OCCUPATION OF ARAB TERRITORIES" CAUSED EMBARR-ASSMENT TO GOA, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF STRAIN IN TRADITIONAL CORDIAL AUSTRO-ISRAELI RELATIONS THAT THE RECENT ARAB TERRORIST INCIDENT SET IN MOTION. AT NEXT DAY'S LUNCHEON, KREISKY TOOK ISSUE WITH ZHIVKOV'S REMARK BY STATING IN HIS TOAST THAT "WE FIND IT DIFFICULT TO DISTRIBUTE BLAME JUSTLY" IN CURRENT ARAB-ISRAELI WAR (REFTEL) FINAL COMMUNIQUE STRUCK MORE NEUTRAL NOTE IN NOTING THAT BOTH GOVERNMENTS AGREED THAT "EVERY EFFORT MUST BE UNDERTAKEN TO BRING FIGHTING TO IMMEDIATE END AND THAT ALL APPROPRIATE INITIATIVES SHOULD BE PURSUED TO BRING ABOUT JUST AND LASTING PEACE IN ME BASED ON SC RESOLUTION 242."

4. FINAL COMMUNIQUE ALSO MENTIONED THAT TWO GOVERNMENTS SHARED SIMILAR OR IDENTICAL VIEWS ON EUROPEAN SECURITY AND COOPERATION AND EXPRESSED HPE THAT "SIGNING OF AGREEMENTS ON CEASE-FIRE IN VIETNAM AND LAOS WILL PROVIDE PEOPLE OF INDO-CHINA OPPORTUNITY TO DETERMINE OWN DESTINY SO THAT THEY CAN LIVE IN PEACE."

5. VISIT WAS USED AS OCCASION FOR SIGNING 10 YEAR PROGRAM VICE AGREEMENT FOR EXPANSION OF TRADE, INDUSTRIAL AND SCIENTIFIC-TECHNICAL COOPERATION WHICH BULGARIAN FONMIN NEDER CHARACTERIZED AS "FIRST OF ITS KIND SIGNED BY HIS COUNTRY WITH A NON-COMMUNIST NATION."

6. BOTH GOVERNMENTS ALSO AGREED TO SIGN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE CONSULAR CONVENTION AND SOCIAL SECURITY AGREEMENT CONCERNING WHICH NEGOTIATIONS ARE ALRADY UNDERWAY.

7. ACCORDING TO FOREIGN OFFICE SOURCE, ZHIVKOV VISIT WAS FROM AUSTRIAN PERSPECTIVE LARGELY OF PROTOCOLARY NATURE. FOR THEIR PART, BULGARIANS WERE MOST CONCERNED ABOUT ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF THEIR RELATIONS WITH AUSTRIA AND STRESSED NEED FOR GREATER JOINT EFFORT TO EXPAND TRADE AND ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION. AUSTRIANS EXPLAINED THEY HAD EXHAUSTED GOVERN-MENTAL POSSIBILITIES OF PROMOTING BULGARIAN TRADE AND THAT IT WAS NOW UP TO BULGARIANS TO SYSTEMATICALLY DEVELOP AUSTRIAN MARKET WITH HIGH QUALITY PRODUCTS. TEN-YEAR PROGRAM VICE
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AGREEMENT PROVIDES GENERAL PARAMETERS FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF ECONOMIC/SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION WITHOUT LAYING DOWN FIRM COMMITMENTS ON HOW IT SHOULD BE ACHIEVED.

8. INTERESTING SIDELIGHT OF VISIT WAS ZHIVKOV REQUEST TO HIS AUSTRIAN HOSTS TO ARRANGE FOR HIM TO ADDRESS AUSTRIAN PEOPLE IN SIMILAR FASHION AS BREZHNEV HAD DONE IN US. AUSTRIANS PLEADED INABILITY TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS ON SHORT NOTICE. ZHIVKOV,

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THEREFORE, READ AT PRESS CONFERENCE OCT 13 LENGTHY EXCERPTS OF HIS PREPARD SPEECH WHICH EXPRESSED SATIFACTION WITH STRENGTHENING OF AUSTRIAN-BULGARIAN BILATERAL RELATIONS, SKETCHED OUT APPROVINGLY BULGARIAN-BALKAN POLICY AND NOTED BULGARIA'S READINESS TO EXPAND CULTURAL AND HUMANITARIAN ACTIVITIES IN CONTEXT OF CSCE.MOWINCKEL

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